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Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 7 June 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a decision and a statement issued by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation concerning the attack carried out by the Ukrainian special services against the office of RIA Novosti-Ukraine (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 72 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Nebenzia**

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Annex to the letter dated 7 June 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Decision of the State Duma with respect to the statement issued by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation concerning the attack carried out by the Ukrainian special services against the office of RIA Novosti-Ukraine

The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation hereby decides:

1. To adopt the statement issued by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation concerning the attack carried out by the Ukrainian special services against the office of RIA Novosti-Ukraine.

2. To transmit the present decision and the aforementioned statement to the Government of the Russian Federation, the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and the parliaments of the States members of the European Union.

3. To transmit the present decision and the aforementioned statement to the Parliamentary Gazette for official publication.

4. This decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

V. V. **Volodin**
Chairman of the State Duma
of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 17 May 2018
No. 3971-7 GD

Statement issued by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation concerning the attack carried out by the Ukrainian special services against the office of RIA Novosti-Ukraine

On 15 May 2018, officers of the Ukrainian Security Service raided the office of RIA Novosti-Ukraine and detained the journalist Kirill Vyshinsky.

Such actions by the authorities in Kiev against RIA Novosti-Ukraine and the employees working there are a blatant abuse of power by the Ukrainian special services. The use of force, which is usually applied to dangerous criminals, against journalists who are faithfully carrying out their work runs counter to fundamental European values. Freedom of expression and freedom of speech form an integral part of those values, as enshrined in the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and in other international legal obligations.

The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation calls on the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe to take a principled stance with regard to the multiple violations of the rights of journalists in Ukraine, and demands the immediate release of Kirill Vyshinsky by the authorities in Kiev.

V. V. **Volodin**
Chairman of the State Duma
of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 17 May 2018